

REMARKS

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, because the Amendment places the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; does not introduce any new claims; does not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration because the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution, and places the application in better form for an appeal should an appeal be necessary.

As noted in the Official Action Summary, claims 5-7 and 15 are pending. Applicants note with appreciation that claim 15 stands allowed. Claims 5-7 are canceled herein, without prejudice or disclaimer thereto. Applicants reserve the right to file at least one continuation application directed to any subject matter canceled by way of the present Amendment.

Objections to the Specification

The specification is objected to as purportedly failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the Office asserts no basis can be found in the specification for claim 7. Claim 7 is canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer thereto. As such, this objection is moot.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as purportedly failing to comply with the enablement and written description requirements. In the interest of expediting prosecution and without acquiescing in the rejections, claim 7 is canceled herein without prejudice or disclaimer thereto. As such, this rejection is moot.

CONCLUSION

From the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested for claim 15 and such action is earnestly solicited.

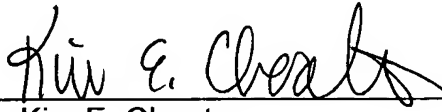
In the event that there are any questions relating to this Amendment or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would contact the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of the application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL P.C.

(INCLUDING THE ATTORNEYS FROM BURNS DOANE SWECKER & MATHIS)

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